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Patents, Trademarks and Copyrights

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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

| In re application of: | Martin, et al. |) |
|-----------------------|---|-------------|
| Serial No: | 09/768,976 |) Art Unit |
| Filed: | January 23, 2001 |) 2652) |
| For: | DEVICE AND METHOD FOR IMPROVED STICTION RELIABILITY IN DISK DRIVES EMPLOYING PADDED SLIDERS |))) |
| Examiner: | Mark S. Blouin |) |
| Attorney Docket: | Q01-1001-US1 |) |

TRANSMITTAL OF INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BEFORE MAILING DATE OF EITHER FINAL ACTION OR NOTICE OF ALLOWANCE 37 CFR §1.97(C)

Assistant Commissioner for Patents Washington, D. C. 20231

Sir:

Transmitted herewith is a Supplemental Information Disclosure Statement (form 1449A/PTO modified) along with the references and a return receipt postcard.

Applicants submit herewith patents, publications or other information of which they are aware, which they believe may be material to the examination of this application and in respect of which there may be a duty to disclose in accordance with 37 CFR 1.56.

The filing of this information disclosure statement shall not be construed as a representation that a search has been made (37 CFR 1.97(g)), an admission that the information cited is, or is considered to be, material to patentability or that no other material information exists.

The filing of this information disclosure statement shall not be construed as an admission against interest in any manner. Notice of January 9, 1992, 1135 O.G. 13-25, at 25.

The Information Disclosure Statement transmitted herewith is being filed <u>after</u> three months of the filing date of this national application or the date of entry of the national stage as set forth in §1.491 in an international application or after the mailing date of the first Office Action on the merits, whichever event occurred last but <u>before</u> the mailing date of either:

- a. a Final Action under §1.113 or
- b. a Notice of Allowance under §1.311, whichever occurs first.

CERTIFICATE OR FEE

| Accompanying this transmittal is | | | | | |
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| a certification as specified in 37 CFR 1.97(e) | | | | | |
| OR | | | | | |
| X the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(p) for submission of an information disclosure statement under §1.97(c). (\$180.00). | | | | | |
| Dated this the 15th day of January 2003. | | | | | |

Respectfully submitted,

JAMES P. BRODER
Attorney for Applicants
Registration No. 43514

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING UNDER 37 CFR §1.8

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class, postage prepaid mail, in an envelope addressed to: Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231, on this the 15th day of January 2003.

JAMES P. BRODER, Attorney for Applicants--Registration No. 43514

PTO/SB/08A (10-01)
Approved for use through 10/31/2002. OMB 0651-0031
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| Substitute for form 1449A/PTO | | Complete if Known | | | |
|--|---|-------------------|--------|------------------------|----------------------------|
| SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT (use as many sheets as necessary) | | | ATION | Application Number | 09/768,976 |
| | | | 411011 | Filing Date | January 23, 2001 |
| | | | ICANT | First Named Inventor | Martin et al. |
| | | | ssary) | Art Unit | 2652 |
| | | | | Examiner Name | Blouin, Mark S. |
| Sheet | 1 | of | 1 | Attorney Docket Number | Q01-1001-US1 / 11198.46 |

| U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS | | | | | |
|-----------------------|--------------|---|---------------------------|--|---|
| Examiner Initials* | Cite No.¹ | Document Number Number - Kind Code ² (if known) | Issue Date MM- DD-YYYY | Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document | Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear |
| | Α | 5,388,017 | | Franco et al. | |
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| | D | 5,835,303 | | Morehouse et al. | |
| | E | 5,841,608 | | Kasamatsu et al. | |
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|-------------------------|--------------------------|--|--------------------------------|--|--|-----|
| Foreign Patent Document | | | Name of Patentee or | Pages, Columns, Lines, | Т | |
| Examiner Initials* | Cite No. ¹ | Country Code ³ - Number ⁴ - Kind Code ⁵ (<i>if known</i>) | Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY | Applicant of Cited Document | Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear | 1 |
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| Examiner | | Date | | |
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Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). See Kinds Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at www.uspto.gov or MPEP 901.04.

There Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST. 16 if possible. Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached. Burden Hour Statement: This form is estimated to take 2.0 hours to complete. Time will vary depending upon the needs of the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you are required to complete this form should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, Washington, DC 20231. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, DC 20231.



Received in the United States Patent and Trademark Office In Re Utility Patent Application of: Martin et al. Serial No. 09/768,976 Filed: January 23, 2001 Entitled: DEVICE AND METHOD FOR IMPROVED STICTION RELIABILITY IN DISK DRIVES EMPLOYING PADDED SLIDERS

Enclosed are:

Transmittal for Information Disclosure Statement
Supplemental Information Disclosure Statement with references

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